

What should we do now?

- x Ensure that all sharps, animal bite or crush risks have been identified in the Risk Management Form and controls implemented and documented in the Safe Work Procedure.
- x Consider firstly whether you can eliminate the use of sharps.
- x Where possible, use safety devices to prevent sharps injuries eg. disposable scalpel, all-in-one needle syringes.
- x Train all staff and students in the safe handling and disposal of sharps as identified in your Safe Work Procedure.
- x Where animals are used for experimental research, ensure that training is provided in the handling and restraint of animals.
- x Be aware of hand placement when handling animals and consider protection for the non-dominant hand.
- x Make sure that the PPE identified in your Safe Work Procedure is available and used by all people performing the task.
- x Where practical for the task, the use of cut-resistant gloves should be considered.
- x Inspection of glassware before each use, and disposal where cracks are identified.
- x 2 Be Safe - take 2 minutes to plan and think about the work you are about to do and how you can prevent finger injuries.
- x Do not bend needles or try to catch a falling sharp.
- x Additional sharps training is also being investigated.

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